

the mother herself practices keen observation and comparative study of her different children. The mother with four, five or six, has better opportunities of developing her own intellectual life, than the mother with one child or two children; because in a large family there are always greater difference of disposition and capacity among the children and they react on their mother and on each other in more ways, and more interesting ways.

The ideal mother sees to the proper directing and stimulating of the entire family to the intelligent use of books and other readings. The evening is the most valuable time for the discharging of this educational function which lasts them all their lives and is transmitted to their descendants.

That which we do which is of most worth to the world gives us the most satisfaction. What is more beautiful than to see mother surrounded by her children all listening to a story, each thought of which is uplifting, and again what is more pleasing and sat-

isfying to a mother than to watch her children grow.

The strength of the nation is dependent upon the strength of the home, and as President Roosevelt remarks: "When all is said it is the mother, and the mother only who is a better citizen even than the soldier who fights for his country. The successful mother, the mother who does her part in rearing and training aright the boys and girls who are to be men and women of the next generation, is of greater use to the community and occupies, if she only would realize it, a more honorable, as well as a more important position than any successful man in it."

Or in the words of Tennyson:

"Woman's cause is man's; they rise or sink
Together, dwarf'd or god-like, bond or free,
For she that out of Lethe scales with man
The shining steps of nature, shares with man

His nights, his days, moves with him to one goal.

Stays all the fair young planet in her hands—

If she be small, slight—natured, miserable,

How shall men grow?

Or what higher tribute could he paid a woman than the Prince paid to his mother when he said:

"Not perfect, nay, but full of tender wants,

No angel, but a dearer being, all deep
In angel instincts, breathing Paradise,

Interpreter between the Gods of men.
Who looked all native to her place,

and yet

On tip-toe seem'd to touch upon a sphere

Too gross to tread, and all male minds perforce

Sway'd to her from their orbits as they moved,

And girdled her with music—

Happy he with such a mother."

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